



IDAHO COUNTY PROFILE

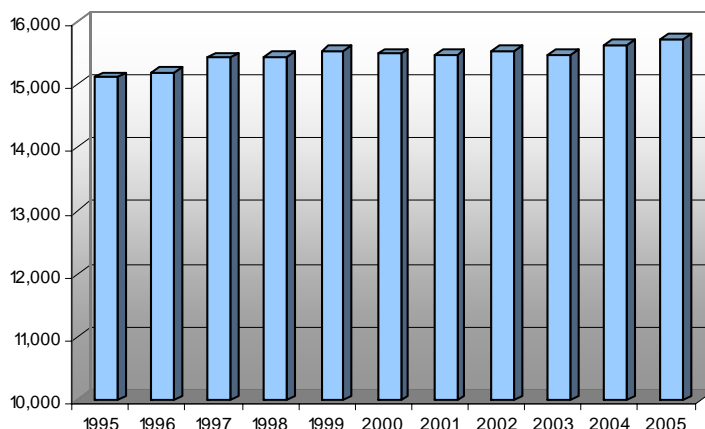
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Population

Population in Idaho County, between July 1, 2004, and July 1, 2005, increased slightly to 15,697 according to recently released estimates by the U.S. Census Bureau. This increase gives Idaho County a ranking of 20th out of 44 Idaho counties in population growth. The data reaffirms the fact that rural Idaho continues to lag far behind the urban and resort areas of the state in terms of population. New registrations for driver's licenses and job registrations at the Grangeville Commerce & Labor office indicate that, of the few people who moved to Idaho County, most are from other parts of the Pacific Northwest and California and have moved into Idaho County predominantly because of the scenic and rural nature of the county.



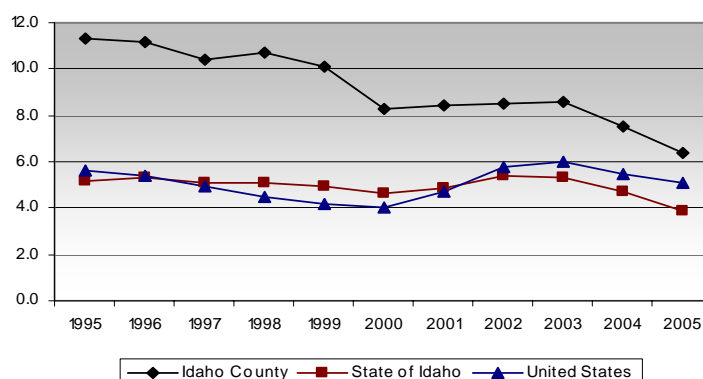
Labor Force & Employment

Total employment increased slightly in 2005. Idaho County's economy is showing signs of rebounding. Employment has had some obstacles to overcome with a 1994 closure of the Ida-Pine sawmill in Grangeville. In spite of the closure, other sectors in retail trade and service industries created new jobs, an indicator of a diversifying economy. Some jobs were lost in 2005. Jobs in government decreased because of cutbacks at the U.S. Forest Service and local school districts.

The economy in Idaho County is still heavily dependent on natural resources. Wood products employment is a large part of the labor force. In 2005, jobs in wood products decreased because of layoffs and reductions of hours worked. However, wood products jobs ended the year in the positive. Bennett Forest Industries opened a new lumber mill in Grangeville. The new mill replaced the Elk City mill that was shut down.

Economic development groups in Idaho County are

Unemployment Rate

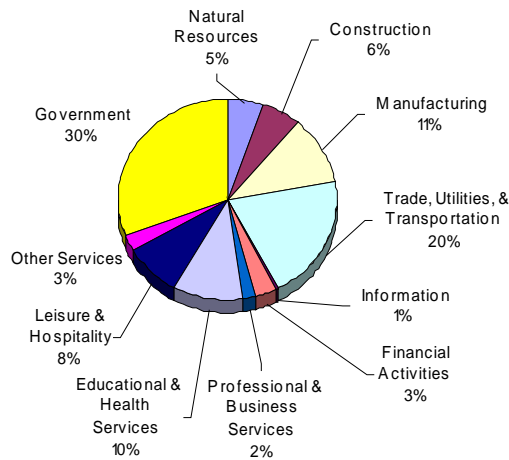


encouraging development of an industrial park at the Grangeville airport. Several small local companies are looking at the proposed park for expansion. In other developments, St. Gertrude's Monastery near Cottonwood opened a new \$3.4 million retreat in 2005. The retreat ministry brings 9,000 to 10,000 people to Cottonwood each year. The nation's number one priority forest fire in August, the Blackerby Fire near Grangeville, had a devastating effect on the forest and the people who live near it, but the fire had a positive effect on local business with the increase sale of goods and services to support fire fighters. Because of its high unemployment rate, Idaho County is an eligible labor surplus area, giving it priority for government contracts.

Labor Force	May 2005	May 2006
Civilian Labor Force	7,512	7,374
Total Employment	7,058	6,961
Unemployed	453	413
Idaho County % Unemployed	6.0	5.6
State of Idaho % Unemployed	3.9	3.4
U.S. % Unemployed	5.1	4.7

Labor Force	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Civilian Labor Force	6,568	6,538	6,353	6,400	6,257	6,913	6,945	6,789	6,844	7,177	7,204
Unemployment	741	735	660	684	634	573	584	580	587	542	459
% of Labor Force Unemployed	11.3	11.2	10.4	10.7	10.1	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.6	7.5	6.4
Employment	5,827	5,803	5,693	5,716	5,623	6,340	6,361	6,209	6,257	6,635	6,745

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2004



Employers and Wages

From 2004 to 2005, the number of employers in Idaho County increased by three to 579. However, the number of large employers, those with 25 or more employees, decreased in number. New employers were small businesses, each with fewer than five workers. For Covered Employment by industry, *Manufacturing* and *Government* account for 43 percent of all jobs. Average wages for the county in 2005 increased for the first time in 2 years.

Major Employers

Bennett Lumber Products
Clearwater Forest Industries Inc
Dept. of Corrections - State Penitentiary
Grangeville Joint School District
Idaho County
Seubert Excavators Inc
St Mary's Hospital - Cottonwood
Syringa General Hospital District
Three Rivers Timber, Inc.
U.S. Forest Service

Occupational Wages*

Average Wages

Accountants	\$17.52
Carpenters	\$14.60
Cashiers	\$7.14
Child Care Workers	\$7.00
Computer Technicians	\$14.52
Dental & Health Care Assistants	\$10.21
Janitors	\$8.10
Guards	\$9.39
Nurses	\$18.89
Salespersons, Retail	\$7.25
Secretaries	\$10.03
Teachers	\$18.86
Waiters & Waitresses	\$5.68

* Additional Occupational Wage data can be found on the Idaho Commerce & Labor website at cl.idaho.gov/lmi.

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 1994, 2003, & 2004	1994		2003		2004	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	3,886	\$19,018	4,266	\$24,901	4,387	\$26,044
Agriculture	355	\$22,730	149	\$30,496	193	\$34,032
Mining	114	\$27,517	78	\$34,748	85	\$31,765
Construction	175	\$18,018	252	\$22,177	260	\$22,685
Manufacturing	223	\$22,312	494	\$30,567	486	\$36,161
Trade, Utilities, & Transportation	711	\$16,698	866	\$21,573	887	\$22,254
Information	50	\$11,054	38	\$18,860	33	\$22,148
Financial Activities	117	\$15,906	128	\$22,815	133	\$25,859
Professional and Business Services	76	\$12,747	80	\$23,091	77	\$26,170
Educational and Health Services	230	\$15,883	443	\$22,951	452	\$24,220
Leisure and Hospitality	378	\$7,021	353	\$9,663	379	\$9,631
Other Services	52	\$8,829	67	\$10,150	88	\$14,452
Government	1,407	\$23,153	1,317	\$30,253	1,315	\$30,226

Per Capita Income	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Idaho County	\$15,180	\$15,847	\$16,132	\$17,218	\$17,846	\$18,972	\$19,795	\$19,538	\$19,682	\$21,039
State of Idaho	\$18,707	\$19,426	\$20,248	\$20,648	\$21,789	\$22,786	\$24,075	\$25,185	\$25,330	\$26,877
United States	\$22,172	\$23,076	\$24,175	\$25,334	\$26,883	\$27,939	\$29,845	\$30,575	\$30,804	\$31,472

Information provided by U.S. Census Bureau



This county is served by the office listed below:
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